

I join the community in congratulating CSD for 150 years of exemplary service to deaf students and their families. The California School for the Deaf is a valuable resource beyond measure.

CELEBRATING ONE-YEAR ANNI-  
VERSARY OF SWEARING IN OF  
PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 19, 2009*

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, this week, on May 20, 2009, the Republic of China on Taiwan will celebrate the one year anniversary of the swearing in of President Ma Ying-jeou. On a recent trip to Taipei, I had the privilege of meeting President Ma. His inauguration marked the second successful and peaceful transfer of power from one political party to another. This is an example of Taiwan's steadfast progress toward full democratization in just the last few decades.

After implementing democratic and economic reforms the Republic of China on Taiwan has become a true model of success throughout Asia. Through the hard work and entrepreneurship of the Taiwanese people, Taiwan has become one of the strongest economies in the Pacific Rim and a showcase democracy in the world.

I was proud to cosponsor H. Con. Res. 55, which recognizes the 30th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, TRA—landmark legislation that forms the foundation of the relationship between the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan. The House of Representatives' unanimous support for the resolution on March 24, 2009 reaffirms Congress' unwavering commitment of the TRA as the cornerstone of relations between the United States and Taiwan, reiterates its support for Taiwan's democratic institutions and supports the continuation of the strong and deepening relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important occasion. We are proud of its political and economic transformation, and wish Taiwan continued success and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING THE PENNDEL-  
MIDDLETOWN EMERGENCY SQUAD

**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 19, 2009*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad for 50 years of distinguished service to Middletown Township and its adjoining boroughs. Since their inception as a non-profit emergency ambulance service in 1959, they have selflessly served tens of thousands of residents in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad has come quite a long way since its incorporation. Their first ambulance was a used 1947 Cadillac-Superior Coach, and now their purpose is

to provide the best and most modern emergency care and transportation that can be made available. The Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad also offers education and training to the community for first aid and emergency care.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing the Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad for their 50 years of service to Middletown Township and the neighboring boroughs of Hulmeville, Langhorne, Langhorne Manor and Penn-del, an area of more than 25 square miles. I am honored to serve as their Congressman.

SALUTING HARLEM'S OWN CROWN  
JEWELS—LILLIAN "DIAMOND  
LIL" PIERCE

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 19, 2009*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute and congratulate my dear friend, Lillian "Diamond Lil" Pierce as an ensemble of Harlem Legendary entertainers gathers to perform a special tribute at the famous Alhambra Ballroom on Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard.

Affectionately known in Harlem as "Diamond Lil," she was born in Cameron, North Carolina, and graduated from Pinckney High School in Carthage, North Carolina. Lil came to New York in 1958 and enrolled at City College. She later worked at the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles followed by a brief stint at a bar on Broadway, which proved to be a solid stepping stone to her becoming a co-owner of Carl's Off the Corner in West Harlem. But it was "Diamond Lil's" 21-year tenure at Showman's Café where she established her reputation and earned the appreciation of countless customers and musicians.

During her many years as a barmaid at Showman's, Lil heard and entertained a veritable Hall of Fame of Jazz and popular musicians, and Showman's Elite personalities. Showman's, originally located next to the World Famous Apollo Theatre over the years has been the home club of choice and hang-out for many of Harlem's renowned entrepreneurs and personalities. Since 1942, Showman's Jazz Cafe has showcased top musicians for Harlem and International audiences, as Mona, Co-owner and retired Son of Sam New York City Police Detective Al Howard, and our Crown Jewel "Diamond Lil" refers to as "family."

Madam Speaker, the Friends of Showman's roster include luminaries and entertainers like Count Basie, Billy Eckstine, Sammy Davis, Jr., Charles Honi Coles, Leroy Myers, Gregory Hines, Pop Brown, Nat Davis and Savion Glover. Personalities like Jesse Walker, Joe Yancy and Jimmy Booker. Performers like Bill Doggett, George Benson, Seleno Clarke, Irene Reid, Jimmy "Preacher" Robins, Gloria Lynne, Joey Morant, Akiko Tsuruga, Grady Tate, Frank Dell, Bill Saxton, Annette St. John, Wolf Johnson, Pat Tandy and the Prince of Harlem Lonnie Youngblood. Among the elected officials who graced her bar and thrilled to her service were Governor David Paterson, Assembly Members Denny Farrell and Keith Wright, State Senator Bill Perkins,

Councilmember Inez Dickens, former Borough President C. Virginia Fields, my brother and former Mayor, David N. Dinkins, and me.

Yes, diamonds are forever and so is our extraordinarily precious Lillian "Diamond Lil" Pierce.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH  
MONTH

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 19, 2009*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of May as National Women's Health Month. This designation encourages women to make their own health a top priority by obtaining regular medical check-ups and preventive screenings.

As we urge women to prioritize their own health care, we must also call attention to the disproportionate impact the health care crisis is having on women, particularly women of childbearing age.

In fact, earlier this month the Department of Health and Human Services released a new report, titled Roadblocks to Health Care: Why the Current Health Care System Does Not Work for Women which states that women, especially those of reproductive age, are more vulnerable to high health care costs because they require more regular contact with health care providers, including yearly Pap tests, mammograms, and obstetric and gynecological care.

While the study sheds much needed light on the impact of the nation's health care crisis on women, its findings are not surprising.

Last year, I had the opportunity to visit a women's health clinic run by Planned Parenthood and saw first hand patients seeking the affordable, accessible, high-quality preventive reproductive health care.

At Planned Parenthood clinics, health professionals provide over 950,000 cervical cancer screenings and breast exams to more than 850,000 women. Sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment are performed and made available to both women and men. In fact, 97 percent of the services provided at these clinics are preventative.

In Virginia alone these clinics provide basic health care, including lifesaving cancer screenings, to over 28,500 patients a year. But these clinics are only meeting a fraction of the need in my state. There are 846,100 women in need of contraceptive services and supplies. Of these, 371,640 women need publicly supported contraceptive services because they have incomes below 250 percent of the federal poverty level (251,710) or are sexually active teenagers (119,930). Eleven percent of women aged 15–44 have incomes below the federal poverty level, and 18 percent of all women in this age-group are uninsured (i.e., do not have private health insurance or Medicaid coverage).

Increasing health insurance coverage for women is essential. Approximately 17 million American women have no health insurance coverage. It's critical that health care reform requires coverage of comprehensive reproductive health services.

With the economic downturn, these health centers have seen a significant increase in utilization, just as their funding streams, both